THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) The continued Marketing of any drug banned or withdrawn in any part of the world is reviewed by experts of the Drugs Technical Advisory Board, a statutory body under the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940. This is an ongoing process.

(b) Of the 44 drugs reported by the World Health Organisation to have been withdrawn in some countries, Government on the advice of experts and the Drugs Technical Advisory Board, have banned 11 drugs, disallowed 26 drugs to be marketed and permitted continued marketing of the remaining 7 drugs as these drugs were considered effective by experts in the Indian context.

(c) The State Licensing Authorities are directed to see that the notifications made by Government are enforced both in respect of production and marketing of such drugs.

Review of the working of ICMR

628. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to review the working of the Indian Council of Medical Research so as to make it research oriented; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b) The Indian Council of Medical Research is a research-oriented organisation. One of its main objects is to initiate, aid, develop and coordinate medical scientific research in India. The Council has undertaken many projects on health problems including, *inter-alia*, various communicable and non-communicable diseases. The Annual Report of ICMR for 1993-94 alongwith a Review Note has been laid on the Table of the House on 21-12-1994.

New system of Accupressure Therapy

629. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of a new system of therapy, called Accupressure;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the countries where this system of therapy is in vogue;

(d) whether it is also tried in India;

(e) if so, the actual efficacy of this therapy; and

(f) the steps taken to popularise this system?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) to (f) Accupressure therapy is an old technique of applying pressure with fingers, thumb or a pencil on certain key points on palms and soles. This is belived to affect a remote organ connected with that point. This therapy is said to be effective in relieving pain and to correct some of the functional disturbances of different organs in the body. It has been in vogue in countries like China, Japan and Korea. It is also know to be practised in various countries like USA, Germany and UK. In India also it is being practised in a very limited way through the initiative of some voluntary agencies and individuals.

Kidney transplantation scandals

630. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:
DR. SANJAYA SINH:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bangalore police has recently unearthed a massive racket in which kidneys of nearly 1000 unsuspecting persons had been removed in a leading city hospital for sale in West Asia;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of doctors involved therein and what action Government propose to take against them.

(c) how many other kidney transplant scandals have come to Government's notice from other States; and

(d) what deterrent punishment Government propose to impose on such doctors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b) As per the information received from the Government of Karnataka, based on the complaints regarding illegal removal of kidneys from unsuspecting blood donors in Karnataka, two FIRs have been lodged naming DR. Siddaraju as an accused on 21-1-95 and 29.1.95 respectively. Dr. Siddaraju was arrested and later released on bain. Dr. Siddaraju has also been placed under suspension. Two other doctors, namely Dr. Ramachandrappa and Dr. Adil Ahmed have been deregistered by the Karnataka Medical Council. However no information is available with the Government regarding sale of kidneys in West Asia.

(c) Recently, the case of some people of Uttar Dinajpur district of West Bengal who were reported to have become victims of unscrupulous commercial dealings in Bombay has also come to the nature of the Government.

(d) The respective State Governments are making investigation into the cases and are expected to take appropriate action.

World Bank Assistance for Malaria Control

631. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY:

SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

SHRI GUNDAPPA KORWAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to seek World Bank assistance for controlling Malaria and for various community health programmes in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b) A proposal seeking World Bank Assistance for the control of malaria in the tribal areas of the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Rajasthan is under formulation.

Surveillance Centres for AIDS

632. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY:

SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Health Organisation (WHO) has directed Government to start Surveillance Centres for detection of AIDS; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.